

## Poverty status, by age, 1998

### The oldest age group has the highest poverty rate

In addition to the lower median income of older age groups, poverty rates are often higher for those who are older. As with income, the large proportion of nonmarried women in the older age groups contributes to the difference in poverty rates by age. Nonmarried women are more likely than married persons to be poor or near poor in every age group.

Poverty status,\* by age, sex, and marital status

| Age                         | Married persons | Nonmarried men | Nonmarried women |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Percent poor                |                 |                |                  |
| 65-69                       | 4               | 16             | 19               |
| 70-74                       | 5               | 15             | 18               |
| 75-79                       | 6               | 14             | 20               |
| 80-84                       | 6               | 11             | 18               |
| 85 or older                 | 7               | 9              | 19               |
| Percent poor or near poor** |                 |                |                  |
| 65-69                       | 7               | 27             | 29               |
| 70-74                       | 8               | 24             | 29               |
| 75-79                       | 9               | 23             | 30               |
| 80-84                       | 9               | 18             | 28               |
| 85 or older                 | 12              | 14             | 30               |

\*Based on family income of aged persons to conform with official measures of poverty.

\*\*The near poor are defined as having income between the poverty line and 125% of the poverty line.

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